

There was no charge for tuition, and it is very probable that there will be a similiar class this winter.

Our discipline is firm, but not harsh. A pupil must behave, or he must leave. We give him his choice, but at the same time we try so to do our duty that he will try to do his. No pupll is allowed to remain in school who is idle, impudent or unruly.

The teachers meet twice a month for instruction. I conduct these meetings, and in this way I have been able to do my best work for the schools. During the term, there are 16 meetings, which are equivalent in time to a three weeks' Summer Normal School. The fact that these meetings are held is having a good effect on the community. In this way does the community find out the difference between a trained and an untrained teacher. The day is rapidly passing by when people who fail at everything else, are permitted to train children. No one is fit to teach, or tell others how to teach, unless he has had special preparation and training.

I believe that our schools are growing more and more popular from the fact that we now have on the rolls the names of our very best citizens, both rich and poor. This argues well for the future. As the parents become more and more interested, they will do more for the education of their children. Personally, I believe that when a city is willing and able to tax itself to maintain a high school, it should do so. This, I am sure, is the opinion of the best educators and friends of education everywhere. The high school is the connecting link between the primary school and the University. I look forward with hope to the day when the children of our city will have a high school in which they may prepare to enter college.

\* At present, it is our aim to teach only those subjects specially laid down in the common school course of study. The people will settle the high school question here and elsewhere when they see fit to settle it. In their good judgment, I have all confidence.

I cannot close this report without expressing my approval of our present State School Law. It is, in my opinion, the best we have ever had, and I am sure that this is the opinion of all thoughtful, practical school men in our city.

Respectfully submitted,

M. C. S. NOBLE, *Superintendent*.

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REIDSVILLE, N. C., September 25th, 1888.

HON. S. M. FINGER, *Sup't Public Instruction, Raleigh, N. C. :*

SIR:—Accompanying this you will please find a statistical report of the Graded Schools of Reidsville, and at your request I subjoin a brief statement of their origin and progress.